



501.36884X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. INOUE, et al

Serial No.: 09/258,302

Filed: February 26, 1999

For: POINT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Group: --

Examiner: Lasta

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 19, 2002

Sir:

Applicants are submitting herewith a Preliminary Amendment amending the claims as per the May 7, 1999 Preliminary Amendment to reflect the new rules changes as a courtesy to the Examiner.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An IC card comprising:

a memory having a plurality of point storage areas storing point data which are assigned corresponding to a customer's use; and
a point management application which manages access to said memory.